

already arrived, we may conclude that eventually the legislative programme of each party or group will be settled more or less definitely in unofficial convention and that it will not be open to political leaders to spring upon the country measures which have been designed in the secrecy of the Cabinet. When they enter upon office the adopted programme will imperatively guide and limit their activities. Such a system would give infinitely more importance to philanthropic societies than they enjoy at present. They would have access to the preliminary conventions of groups or parties; they could urge their views at moments when politicians were concerned not with polemic activity or destructive criticism, but with the construction of a programme that would satisfy their constituents and might not infrequently be persuaded to add a new banner to their equipment of political emblems. So assisted enthusiastic idealists may march to triumph in alliance with interests that have no organic connection with their own. This it may be urged, is not a pleasing prospect. It threatens us with the eccentricities of a government by faddists. But we may condemn as a fad a most useful ideal until we appreciate the full scope of its importance. What aim can a State possess that is finer or more fruitful than to promote the healthfulness,

intelligence. and
morality of the coming generation ?
In the
United States this is a dominating
political cult.
to which all vested interests must pay
obedience.
It ordains the ruthless elimination of
city slums.
and the careful purification of popular
entertainment. Two generations ago it
would have
seemed to English statesmen the
vision of a
sentimental dream. In these days it
has its

So the Labour Party has adopted the cries
of "Votes for
Women" and "Justice for India."